

May 5, 1975

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Mahoney. Do you speak on this amendment? The Chair recognizes Senator Moylan.

SENATOR MOYLAN: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I, naturally, oppose this amendment. As Senator Mahoney said, we have asked for a modest raise to these gentlemen and they, duties of this Commission necessitate that they make legislative, executive and judicial decisions which effect over half of the economy of the state, and as I pointed out the other day, to come back to it, Colorado pays \$28,000, Missouri pays \$28,000, Iowa pays \$24,000, Minnesota pays \$22,000, North Dakota, \$21,000, Wyoming, \$19,500 and we are down at the bottom with \$17,500. South Dakota pays \$17,500 and Louisiana pays \$17,500. Now I think you can see from that, and besides this is the only state that restricts them from having outside employment other than their jobs. So I would oppose this amendment as presented by Senator Koch.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, I'd oppose the amendment. As I understand the amendment of Senator Koch, this would only give the Chairman the increase. Am I correct in that? The chairman alone. I think, in this particular case, that you definitely would have to oppose this because then you are saying to the other members of the Commission that when they have the hearings, and many of them are kept over several days, and as that particular Commission gets more important with the responsibilities that are laid out before it and it is going to be that way, more and more so, that definitely the other members of the Commission should be able to take this small increase also and not just the chairman. I would hope that you would defeat the Koch amendment.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator Richard Lewis.

SENATOR R. LEWIS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I certainly support this amendment. I opposed the bill the other day. I still am opposed to the bill but I think Senator Koch is entirely right. The chairman does much more work generally than the average board member. When they hold outstate hearings, they do not generally take the entire Commission out and the chairman is charged with the responsibility of setting up the programs and directing the activities. I think it is entirely reasonable that if anyone is going to get some increase it should be the chairman and I certainly support this amendment.

SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes Senator...is there any further discussion? Senator Koch, do you wish to close?

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I will be very brief. I would like to question Senator Moylan, if he would yield to a question. Senator Moylan, you quoted the salaries of states bordering Nebraska and nearby. Do they provide their Chairman with a differential in salary in terms of his responsibility as that from the regular board members?

SENATOR MOYLAN: Any of the ones that I quoted do not. There are some states that do give their Chairman more salary.